

Native Cultures of Western Alaska and the Pacific Northwest Coast
June 13 – July 12, 2010

Guest Scholar Profiles

Kenneth M. Ames, Professor and Chair of the Department of Anthropology at Portland State University, is a specialist on the archaeology and prehistory of the peoples of the Pacific Northwest Coast. He has conducted numerous excavations in the area and has focused on a issues of our Institute, the development of complex cultures among these coastal societies, and is co-author, with Herbert D.G. Maschner, of *Peoples of the Northwest Coast: Their Archaeology and Prehistory* (1999).

Nora Marks Dauenhauer, a Native Tlingit scholar, has focused her scholarly attention on the oral history of Alaska native storytellers and is a Tlingit language researcher and cultural historian. Among her numerous publications with her husband and colleague, **Richard Dauenhauer** (University of Alaska Southeast), are *Haa tuwunaagu yis, for healing our spirit: Tlingit oratory* (1990); *Life woven with song* (2000); *Haa kusteeyi, our culture: Tlingit life stories* (1994); “Evolving Concepts of Tlingit Identity and Clan,” in *Coming to Shore* (2004); and *Anóoshi Lingít Aani Ká/Russians in Tlingit America: the Battles of Sitka 1802 and 1804*, edited with Lydia Black (University of Washington Press, 2008), winner of the 2008 American Book Award.

Ann Fienup-Riordan, anthropologist and independent scholar working at the Arctic Studies Center and with the Calista Elders Council, has lived and taught in Alaska since 1973. She was named “Alaska Humanist” by the Alaska Humanities Forum in 1991 and in 2000 she received the Alaska Federation of Natives President’s Award for her work with Alaska Natives. Her publications include *Eskimo Essays: Yup’ik Lives and How We See Them* (1990); *The Real People and the Children of Thunder* (1991); *Boundaries and Passages: Rule and Ritual in Yup’ik Eskimo Oral Tradition* (1994); *Freeze Frame: Alaska Eskimos in the Movies* (1995); and *Hunting Tradition in a Changing World: Yup’ik Lives in Alaska Today* (2000). She recently co-edited with Lawrence D. Kaplan *Words of the Real People: Alaska Native Literature in Translation*. She is also working on a project entitled “Elders in Museums: Standing Fieldwork on its Head.”

Aaron Glass currently Fellow in Museum Anthropology at the American Museum of Natural History and Bard Graduate Center. He will be working on documenting the Jacobsen Collection in Berlin and Beyond: Prospects for Digital Media to Unite Museum Objects with Archival and Indigenous Knowledge. His research focuses on the Kwakwaka’wakw communities and the issues concerning both the local and global politics of contemporary art and cultural performance. He is the co-author with Aldona Jonaitis of *Totem Poles: Myth and Monument* (2009), as well as the project to restore the Edward Curtis documentary film “In the Land of the Head Hunters” with its original musical score. His publications include “Crests on Cotton: Souvenir’ T-shirts and the materiality of remembrance among the Kwakwaka’wakw of British Columbia,” *Museum Anthropology* (2007); “From Cultural Salvage to Brokerage: The Mythologization of

Mungo Martin and the Emergence of Northwest Coast Art,” *Museum Anthropology* (2006) and “The Thin Edge of the Wedge”: Dancing around the Potlatch Ban, 1922-1951,” Right to Dance/Dancing for Rights, ed. in Naomi Jackson (2004), as well as the documentary video “*In Search of the Hamat’sa*” (2004)

Aldona Jonaitis is Director Emerita of the University of Alaska Museum at Fairbanks and has published some of the most important work on the art of the peoples of the Pacific Northwest Coast, including *Art of the Northwest Coast* (2006) and *From the Land of the Totem Poles: The Northwest Coast Indian Art Collection at the American Museum of Natural History* (1989) Jonaitis is editor of the important publications *Chiefly Feasts: The Enduring Kwakiutl Potlatch* (1991), based on the exhibit of the same name at the AMNH, and *A Wealth of Thought: Franz Boas on Native American Art* (1995), which includes her essays “The Development of Franz Boas’ Theories on Primitive Art,” and “The Boasian Legacy in Northwest Coast Indian Art Studies.” She is co-author with Aaron Glass of the forthcoming publication, *Totem Poles: Myth and Monument* (2009).

Jennifer Kramer is Assistant Professor of Anthropology and Curator of Pacific Northwest at the Museum of Anthropology, University of British Columbia. Her research interests are in the areas of visual culture and the anthropology of art, focused on the First Nations of the Pacific Northwest Coast. She has worked with the Nuxalk Nation as well as the Kwakwaka’wakw. She is the co-editor, with Charlotte Townsend-Gault and Ki-ki-en [Ron Hamilton] of the forthcoming *The Idea of Northwest Coast Native Art: A Critical Historiography* [2009]. Other publications include *Switchbacks: Art, Ownership, and Nuxalk National Identity* (2006); and “Figurative Repatriation: First Nations ‘Artist-Warriors’ Recover, Reclaim, and Return Cultural Property through Self-Definition,” *The Journal of Material Culture* (2004).

Bruce Miller, Anthropology, University of British Columbia, works with Coast Salish communities on issues concerning indigenous justice and the court system, and he is concerned especially with indigenous communities without state recognition. His publications include *The Problem of Justice: Tradition and Law in the Coast Salish World* (2001); *Invisible Indigenes: The Politics of Non-Recognition* (2003); and *Be of Good Mind: Essays on the Coast Salish* (2007). He is also co-editor of *Extraordinary Anthropology: Transformations in the Field* (2007).

Charlotte Townsend-Gault is Associate Professor of Art History at the University of British Columbia in the department of Art History Visual Art and Theory. Townsend-Gault’s research interests include the politics of contemporary Northwest Coast art in non-traditional media, and the construction and interpretation of Native American art. Her forthcoming book *Masked Relations: Display and Disguise on the Northwest Coast* (2009) deals with these issues. Also forthcoming is the volume *The Idea of Northwest Coast Native Art: A Critical Historiography*, edited with Ki-ki-en [Ron Hamilton] and Jennifer Kramer (2009).

Rosita Worl is President of the Sealaska Heritage Institute and Vice Chair of the Sealaska Corporation. A Native Tlingit scholar, Worl's research and publications focus on Alaska Natives, particularly on the changing roles of women. Worl has written extensively about Alaska Natives, publishing articles on such topics as the role of women in whaling and the changes that came about as result of the creation of Native Corporations through ANCSA. She also is an advisor and consultant, and has provided expert witness on property issues. She is the tribal anthropologist for the Central Council of Tlingit and Haida Indians of Alaska and as such, an influential spokeswoman for native identity and native property law.